

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office action dated October 9, 2003, the Examiner objected to the drawings, specifically Figs 2-4, as having small reference numerals. Applicants will submit appropriate formal drawings upon receipt of a notice of allowance from the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office.

The Examiner objected to the Specification for a variety of typographical errors, which errors have been corrected by this Response.

The Examiner allowed claims 1-3, 8 and 9; objected to claims 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 19-25 for reasons substantially similar to the objections applied to the Specification. These matters have been corrected in this Response.

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 23-29 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 4 and 7 of Co-pending, co-owned, U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/256,358. A PTO/SB25 Terminal Disclaimer accompanies this Response, thus the provisional double patenting rejection should be withdrawn.

In the Specification, errors noted by the Examiner have been corrected.

In the Claims, claims have been amended to overcome the objections, and a terminal disclaimer provided.

In light of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections and objections stated in the Office action, and pass the application to allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the amendment or remarks, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

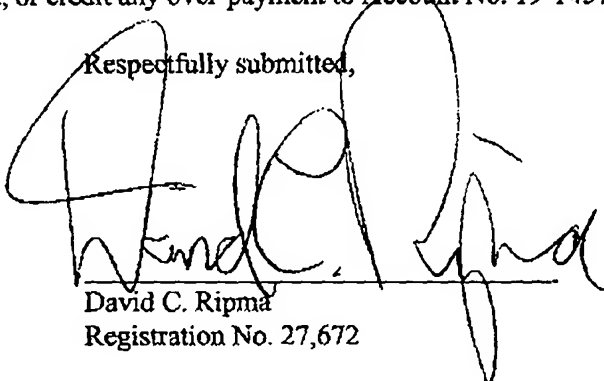
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Response to Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 for Serial No. 10/072,225

Provisional Request for Extension of time in Which to Respond

Should this response be deemed to be untimely, Applicants hereby request an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any over-payment to Account No. 19-1457.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/9/04
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